

# USE OF PIPE THREAD SEALANT COMPOUNDS ON R1234yf REFRIGERANT SYSTEMS

### BACKGROUND

Pipe thread sealants are commonly-used in the mobile A/C industry to prevent refrigerant leaks in car plants, in refrigerant packaging plants, by service machine makers and by auto repair shops.

## • WHO SHOULD BE AWARE

Assembly Plant Engineers - Maintenance Employees - First Fill Equipment Suppliers - Service Machine (RRR) Manufactures - Refrigerant Packagers - Cylinder Manufactures - Automotive Repair Shops

## PROBLEM

Many formulations of liquid or paste thread sealants contain peroxides (oxiders) which can initiate the formation of a white solid or semi-solid polymer when they come in direct contact with R1234yf refrigerant. This potential issue was previously addressed in Section 10 of our Safety Data Sheet.

#### <u>RESOLUTION</u>

Do not use liquid or paste thread sealers on a system or cylinder assembly that will contain R1234yf refrigerant. If a potential leak point needs to be sealed in a R1234yf system or cylinder, ONLY USE 100% PTFE (Teflon) tape. We have determined that common, commercially available thread sealers can interact with R1234yf refrigerant inside a line, pipe or valve rendering the system inoperable.

#### <u>ACTION</u>

Immediately make people aware who install or repair your R1234yf equipment and those who manufacture or assemble your cylinders that they should ONLY use 100% PTFE tape. Not adhering to this advice could lead to polymer formation resulting in down time and/or equipment malfunction.